

As Americans, we often pride ourselves in leading the world forward. But on work/family issues, we are badly trailing most of our competitors. We remain the only major industrial nation with no form of paid family leave, and many of our public policies fail to adequately meet the needs of parents.

Some of these policies, such as child care and unemployment insurance, fall within the jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, which I Chair.

Recently, we've made modest progress in this area by temporarily boosting funding for child care by \$2 billion in the Recovery Act.

Perhaps more substantially, we've begun to prod States to remove barriers to parents receiving unemployment benefits. Four years ago, I introduced legislation called the UI Modernization Act to improve coverage for low-wage workers and to help parents leaving work for compelling family reasons.

This bill, which was included in the Recovery Act, provides a total of \$7 billion for States that enact reforms from a menu of options. One of these reforms is to stop denying benefits to workers who become eligible for unemployment benefits based on part-time work simply because they are seeking reemployment in another part-time job, rather than in a full time job. Some Americans work part-time because they cannot find full-time employment, but others work part-time to accommodate family issues.

I can see no reason to discriminate against parents who choose to work a schedule that best fits the needs of their family, so I am glad we are beginning to make some progress on this issue. As a result of the UI Modernization payments, the number of States providing unemployment benefits to those seeking part-time work doubled, up from 14 to 27.

Another reform included in the UI Modernization Act was providing benefits to so-called trailing spouses. These are wives and husbands who quit their jobs when their partners' jobs are relocated to another part of the country. Many States had disqualified these spouses from receiving UI benefits on the basis that they voluntarily left employment. The Modernization Act cites such employment departures as a compelling family reason, and thus maintains eligibility for UI. The number of States now providing benefits to trailing spouses has gone up from 14 to 24.

Finally, the Modernization Act also permits taking care of a disabled or ill child or fleeing domestic violence as a compelling family reason for leaving employment. All of these reforms are squarely aimed at acknowledging that certain family situations can have a significant, and often unavoidable, impact on a person's job.

I know that two of the biggest goals for those working on work family issues are paid family leave and paid sick leave. I still cannot believe the considerable opposition to the Family and Medical Leave Act before its passage in 1993. That anyone would be opposed to three months unpaid leave for employees at companies with more than 50 employees is absurd.

But we have always heard doomsday predictions when it comes to enacting workplace protections—whether it be overtime pay, the minimum wage, or the Americans with Disabilities Act. And the same is true now when it comes to paid leave.

But once again, we haven't seen any evidence that it causes an undue burden to busi-

ness or to taxpayers after some States and cities have enacted their own paid leave and sick leave standards. In response to paid sick leave requirements in San Francisco, I saw one restaurant executive quoted as saying that paid sick leave—"is the best public policy for the least cost. Do you want your server coughing over your food?"

Moving forward, we need to see progress on work/family issues as part of the continuum of workplace protections that have made America a better place to work, live and raise a family. Helping both mothers and fathers balance work and family responsibilities is something that will have both an immediate and lasting impact on the well being of our Nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JIM MARSHALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2010*

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, regarding rollcall vote 526 on the previous question, I mistakenly voted no. I meant to vote yes.

#### HONORING THE KOREAN HOLIDAY OF CHUSEOK

#### HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2010*

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to recognize and wish the people of South Korea and our Korean Americans a blessed Chuseok holiday.

Chuseok is a time of great thanksgiving in South Korea and a time when families celebrate their ancestry.

This year, Chuseok takes place September 20–23, 2010, and I would like this opportunity to specifically thank our Korean-American community in Orange County.

Their contributions to California and the United States have moved this country in the right direction.

I would also like to recognize the strong US–ROK alliance and the blessing which have developed from this long and enduring relationship.

I wish the people of Korea and all our Korean-Americans a joyful Chuseok.

#### INVESTITURE OF DR. CLIFFORD SCOTT AS TWELFTH PRESIDENT OF NEW ENGLAND COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

#### HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2010*

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, on Sunday, September 26, 2010 Dr. Clifford Scott will be invested as the Twelfth President of the New England College of Optometry, and today I congratulate both Dr. Scott and the College. New England College of Optometry, located in

Boston, has been the educational and intellectual center of optometry in New England since 1894. With an enrollment of over 400 students, the student body is the most diverse of any optometry college in the world: more than 25% of students enrolled in the doctor of optometry program received their pre-optometry education outside the United States. The College is committed to the advancement of vision care and exemplifies the highest standards of training for providers of quality, accessible eye care.

Dr. Clifford Scott's career has been dedicated to the New England College of Optometry since he matriculated at the Massachusetts College of Optometry, New England College of Optometry's predecessor. He has been a New England College of Optometry faculty member since 1970, most recently serving as Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs.

As he and the College enter this next phase in their mutual history, I wish them continued success and preeminence in the field of optometry education and vision care.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MS. ELIZABETH "LIZ" WARE SIMS

#### HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2010*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to Ms. Elizabeth "Liz" Ware Sims who will be honored by The Historic Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.

Ms. Sims was born in Notasulga, Alabama, to the late Tommie and Emma Ware. She was their sixth child out of eight. She attended Shiloh Rosenwald School, Tuskegee Institute High School and after graduation, attended a business college in Montgomery, Alabama.

She worked for thirty-three years at Tuskegee University and then ten more at Auburn University.

In 2006, she began working for The Shiloh Community Restoration Foundation. Later, on August 5, 2010, Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church and The Shiloh Rosenwald School were listed on the National Register of Historic Sites.

Ms. Sims has two daughters, Charlene and Catrina, and three grandsons, Trey, Phillip and Caleb.

The celebration honoring her will be held on October 3, 2010, at The Historic Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church.

I congratulate Ms. Sims for her good works in the community.

#### RECOGNIZING MR. JEFFREY P. CRUZ AS THE 2010 NAVY FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

#### HON. MADELINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 22, 2010*

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the exemplary public service of Mr. Jeffrey P. Cruz, an emergency medical services (EMS) provider for Navy Fire and